Mining Rights to India in the Indian Ocean

*247. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI KALPNATH RAI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Nations have given mining rights to India in the Indian Ocean adjoining its territorial waters;

(b) if so what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether any mining operations have so far been undertaken in the Indian Ocean; and

(d) if so what are the results thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI): (a) to (d) On the 10th December 1982 the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea was adopted. *Interalia* the following concepts flow from this Convention:

(1) Territorial Waters

The area encompasses 12 nautical miles of the coastline. The littoral States exercise full sovereignty in this area.

(2) Exclusive Economic Zone

It encompasses the area of the sea within 200 nautical miles from the coastline.

(3) Continental Shelf

The area beyond the limits of territorial waters upto 350 nautical miles.

(4) Deep Seabed Area

Beyond the limits of the continental shelf.

(5) Pioneer Investor

Any entity that has expended an amount of not less than US 30 million dollars in pioneering activities of deep seabed mining and expended not less than 10 per cent of this amount on the location, survey and evaluation of a specific mining site. India has been recognised as a pioneer investor.

(6) Preparatory Commission

It is to prepare the rules, regulations and incidental arrangements for working out the character of the International Seabed Authority which will ultimately be vested with the powers to implement the regulations. Meanwhile, this Commission will also register the applications of the pioneer investors for deep seabed mining.

2. The mining rights outside the Territorial Waters and the Exclusive Economic Zone are required to be registered with the United Nations. India has identified two mining sites in the Central Indian Ocean in the international waters, of a area of 150,000 sq. km. Our applicaton is coming up for discussion in early 1987 regarding the registration of the two sites by the Preparatory Commission.

3. Research and development work on mining in the identified area and on the metallurgy of the nodules is being actively pursued.

4. Extraction of three important metals, namely, copper, nickel and cobalt from the nodules has been going on at the semi-pilot plant scale.

बंगलौर में एक भू-उपग्रह केन्द्र का स्थापित किया जाना

*248. **श्री शरद यादव** : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने मैसर्स टेक्सस इन्स्ट्रूमेंट नामक एक अमरीकी बहुराष्ट्रिक कम्पनी को बंगलौर में पूरे स्वामित्व अधिकारों के साथ एक भू-उपग्रह केन्द्र स्थापित करने की अनुमति दी है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण है ;

(ग) क्या इस संबंध में कोई उपयोगी स्वदेशी विकल्प उपलब्ध नहीं था ;

(घ) क्या ऐसी अनुमति के लिये अन्य बहुराष्ट्रिक कम्पनी के आवेदन पत्र भी सरकार के विचाराधीन है ; और

(ङ) क्या यह सच है कि इस तरह की अनुमति से भारतीय साफट वेयर व्यापार के क्षेत्र में विदेशी कम्पनियों का आधिपत्य और मुनाफाखोरी बढ़ जायेगी ?

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा महासागर विकास, परमाणु ऊर्जा, इलेक्ट्रानिकी और अन्तरिक्ष विभागों में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के०आर० नारायणन) : (क) से (ग) जी, नहीं । भारत सरकार ने विदेश संचार निगम लि० (वी० एस०एन०एल०) को साफटवेयर का निर्यात करने के लिये बंगलौर स्थित "टेक्सास इंस्ट्रूमेंटस के साफटवेयर निर्यात प्रौद्योगिकी पार्क" के परिसर में एक भू-उपग्रह केन्द्र की स्थापना करने की अनुमति प्रदान की है । विदेश संचार निगम लि० के पास भू-उपग्रह केन्द्र से संबंधित पूर्ण स्वामित्वाधिकार होंगे । विदेश संचार निगम लि० को हमारी राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा से संबंधित मामलों को मद्देनजर रखते हुये भू-उपग्रह केन्द्र का संचालन करने, उसका अनुरक्षण एवं नियंत्रण करने की जिम्मेदारी सौंपी गई है ।

(घ) जी, नहीं ।

(ङ) जी, नहीं । मैसर्स टेक्सास इंस्ट्रूमेंट के साफटवेयर टेकनोलाजी पार्क की स्थापना शत प्रतिशत निर्यात के आधार पर की गई है ।

Unearthing of Ammunition in Pune

*250. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a huge quantity of ammunition, buried deep underground, was unearthed recently at a construction site on Race Course Road, Pune Cantonment; and

(b) if so, what is the nature of the ammunition unearthed and what is its quantity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) Some ammunition was unearthed during the course of excavations in Pune Cantonment area on 4th October, 1986.

(b) The details of the ammunition unearthed are as under:

S. No.	Nomenclature of ammunition	Quantity
1	Hand Grenade/Rifle grenade	15
2	Grenade No. 90	46
3	Cartridges .303	437
4	Cartridges .303 blank	59
5	Fired cases .303	15
6	Base plate for firing rifle grenades	10

The ammunition so recovered was inspected by an ammunition Technical Officer and declared unserviceable.

Scientific Posts taken out of the Purview of the U.P.S.C.

*251. SHRI K. GOPALAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Scientific posts have been taken out of the purview of the Union Public Service Commission recently;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and the total number of such posts during the last three years, year-wise; and